1. Jenness--90 (1913-16) 1922 Copper Eskimo
116, 264, 422

"In the winter, when each housewife cooks in her own hut, she can hide away some of the choicer portions of the meat for her husband and herself to eat after all the visitors have left; but in summer, when most of the cooking is done out of doors, everyone gathers round the pot to eat and no concealment is possible. Surplus food is the property of the family, and can be stored away for a future occasion. In summer innumerable caches of deer-meat and fish are strewn all over the country, each of which is the property of a single family. It is a serious crime to rob one of these caches, except under pressure of starvation."

1: Jenness,--92
116, 422, 534

(1913-16) 1922

Copper Eskimo

"Even the drum seems to be regarded as in some degree the property of the whole community, though it may be made by the labour of a single individual. There was the frame of a drum in the hut of Uloksak when I visited the Coppermine river Eskimos in February, 1915. The natives decided to hold a dance in my honour, and for this purpose the drum was repaired. Uloksak supplied the membrane of caribou skin, and four of the natives fastened it over the frame. The drum was always kept in Uloksak's house, and carried on his sled during migrations; but it was at anyone's disposal for a dance, and there would have been much ill-feeling if Uloksak had refused to hand it over."

SNOW SHOVEL

Owing to the difficulty of procuring wood large enough for its manufacture, the snow shovel, which measured on the average 3 feet long by 18 inches wide, ranked with the table among the most precious possessions of the household. Often a native, unable to obtain one plank of proper width, resorted to splicing, and lashed two boards, one broad and one narrow, side by side. The cracks that developed in nearly all shovels were kept from spreading by similar cross-lashings of rawhide, until the average tool had as many as six or eight "splices"

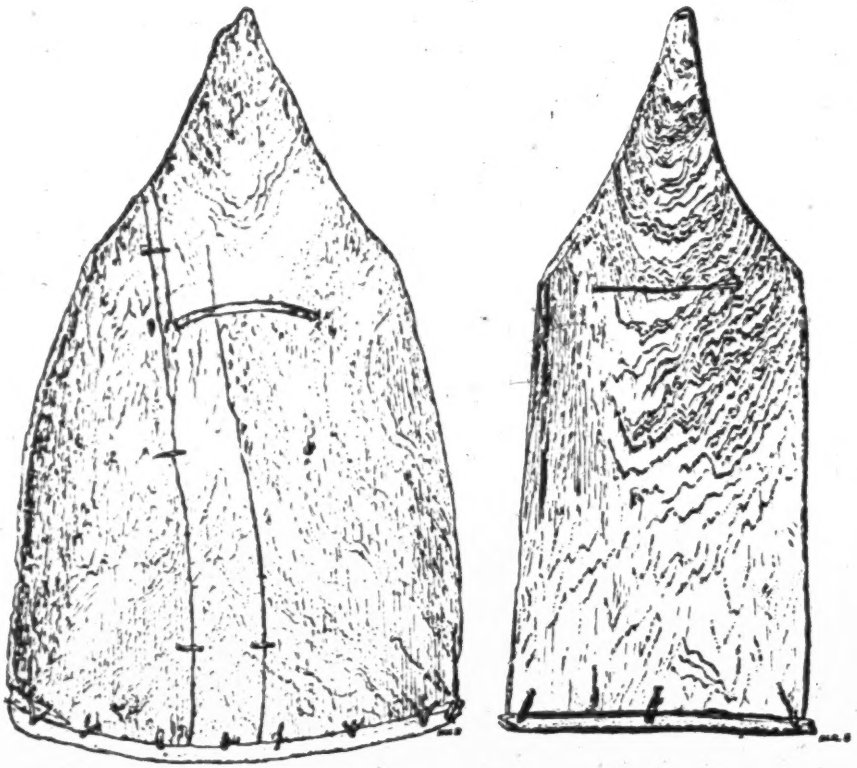

Figure 79. Snow shovels. IV.D.703, 1668. Approx. 1/5.

on its surface. At the bottom was an edging of bone (rarely ivory), securely lashed to the wood through a number of holes; and about the middle of the face was the handle, a half-hoop of antler pushed through two holes and pegged, or, more rarely, a strap of rawhide. Because this handle was liable to break through the wood, some natives strengthened the holes with bone gaskets. The general shape is illustrated in Figure 79.

501 in most districts he used it so seldom that he either disposed of it after a year or two, or else broke up its frame and employed its wood and skin for other [422] purposes. At the time of our visit not one man in ten owned a kayak, or even the frame of one. Around Dolphin and Union Strait I saw only two kayaks, one of them owned by a Victoria Island native, but they became progressively more numerous as one travelled east to Bathurst Inlet. They kept the same shape everywhere, although they differed in length; and the frame was invariably 501 of spruce wood, the covering of sealskin. Generally they were longer, and, in 171 proportion to their length, narrower than kayaks to the westward. They lacked, also, attachments for a sealing harpoon or bird spear, and their bows and sterns had neither eyelets nor projecting horns to facilitate their transport on sleds. In Mackenzie Delta nearly every kayak bore an upstanding horn at each end, and along the Arctic coast of Alaska as far as Barrow, if not beyond, it was usual to have an eyelet in the bow and a horizontally projecting horn in the stern. Below are the measurements of five kayaks, two from Arctic Alaska, two from Mackenzie Delta, and one from Victoria Island within the territory of the Copper Eskimo.

—	Arctic Alaska		Mackenzie Delta		Victoria Island
	Ft. In.	Ft. In.	Ft. In.	Ft. In.	Ft. In.
Total length	15	13 3	15 8	15 10	21 7
Greatest breadth	1 6	1 6	1 7½	1 6	1 3½
Distance of opening from stern	6 5	5 8	7	7	8 6
Depth of opening in front	1	1	11	1 2	1 2½
Depth of opening behind	9½	9	6½	8	7
Diameter of opening	1 4 by	1 11 by	1 4½ by	1 6 by	1 6
	1 6½	1 3½	1 6	1 6	

501 In Copper Eskimo kayaks, bows and sterns were practically straight and the deck level, except just forward of the opening for the paddler, where the front of the gunwale, as usual, was raised by an angular arch. This gunwale was formed by two circular hoops of wood that bound the skin covering between them and were tightly lashed together with sealskin thongs through holes near their rims. Lashed to the deck a few inches in front of the hole was the paddle [32] rest (Figure 181), an L-shaped piece of bone with the upstanding "horn" tilted slightly backward; by resting the middle of his double-bladed paddle against this horn, the hunter obtained greater leverage. I saw no other attachment to a kayak, and was told that the hunter who carried a lance merely pushed its [126] butt under the lashings of the paddle rest. From Capt. J. Bernard, however, I [237] obtained the curious baleen object illustrated in Figure 182, which he stated had been used in some way on a Coronation Gulf kayak. Possibly it supported the skin deck, its two triangles fitting on the gunwales; or it may have been fastened on the deck and lances thrust through the triangles.

501 Figure 180 shows the wooden paddle of the kayak illustrated in the same 32 drawing. It is 11 feet long, ridged at each grip, and edged with bone on the two 322 blades. The bone is grooved to fit over the wood and secured with antler rivets that in three places have fallen out and have been replaced by iron nails. Over each of the two ridges is a sealskin ring three-quarters of an inch in diameter, made by coiling a thong of sealskin around a base of the same material; it kept 501 the water from dripping down the blade onto the paddler's hand. Having seen in the Coronation Gulf area only two other paddles, which I did not examine

28: Jenness E-5 (1914-1916) 1946
ND8 Copper Eskimo ND8

534
422
[426]

There was one drum, on the average, to every eight or ten families. The maker was also the owner; he kept it inside his house and carried it on his sled. The whole community, however, shared its possession and any man might borrow it at will.

524

Figure 186. Doll, of skin. IV.D.752. 1/2.

[868] *Dolls.* We may perhaps class dolls with the playthings, although the cutting out and sewing of costumes for them was a regular part of girls' education. I cannot remember that any had wooden faces; all that I recall were entirely of skin, from 6 inches to a foot long, and clothed as females, which was perhaps only natural, as the women's costume required rather more skill in tailoring than the men's. Figure 186 shows a typical specimen.